

- *Commentary*  
What's your perspective on commitment? 2
- F-117 modifications 3
- Top NCOs call for reforms 4

## NEWSBYTES

### Hornberg takes AETC reins

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** – General Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff, passed the reins of Air Education and Training Command from Gen. Lloyd “Fig” Newton to Gen. Hal Hornburg June 22.

General Newton will retire Aug. 1 with more than 34 years of military service. General Hornburg comes to AETC from Langley AFB, Va., where he was Air Combat Command’s vice commander.

The chief of staff said General Hornburg was chosen as the 25th commander of AETC because he is a proven commander, combat leader and aviator. In accepting command of AETC, General Hornburg expressed his gratitude for “being given the opportunity to lead this great command” and pledged to “sustain what the Newtons have started.”

### AFOSI commander honored

**ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, Md. (AFPN)** – The Women in Federal Law Enforcement, a national organization fostering awareness of the value women bring to law enforcement, have selected Brig. Gen. Francis X. Taylor, commander of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, as the Outstanding Advocate for Women in Law Enforcement.

Secretary of the Air Force Whit Peters nominated General Taylor for the honor based on his efforts to further recruitment, mentoring and advancement of women in the command. Female agents make up nearly 13 percent of the total officer, enlisted, civilian and Reserve agent population of about 1,600, an increase of 5 percent in the last three years.

Women agents and support people comprise 21 percent of AFOSI’s total force of 2,300.

# Air Force Chief of Staff displays confidence in, commitment for V-22

**WASHINGTON** – Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael E. Ryan flew aboard a MV-22 Osprey June 23 at the Naval Air Systems Command Patuxent River, Md.

The flight was a demonstration of General Ryan’s confidence in the safety of the aircraft following an April 8 crash in Arizona that resulted in the deaths of 19 Marines. Accompanying General Ryan on the flight was Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James L. Jones.

Following the flight, General Ryan reiterated the Air Force’s commitment to purchasing 50 of the multi-mission, tilt-rotor aircraft.

The V-22 Osprey combines the vertical flight capabilities of a helicopter with the forward flight speed and range capabilities of a fixed-wing turboprop aircraft.

According to General Ryan, the V-22’s versatility is a key factor for the Air Force, which plans to buy the aircraft to support special operations forces.

**continued on Page 4**



*Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force Chief of Staff, (left) accompanied by Gen. James L. Jones, Marine Corps Commandant, (right) speaks to reporters at Naval Air Systems Command Patuxent River, Md., about the Air Force’s confidence in the safety of the V-22 and the service’s commitment to purchase 50 Ospreys. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker)*

## Korean War service medal approved

**WASHINGTON** – The Air Force will receive and distribute the recently approved Korean War Service Medal offered to U.S. service members more than 50 years ago, but never issued.

The medal was originally offered to United Nations forces serving in Korea and adjacent waters by the Republic of Korea in 1951. At the time, U.S. law prohibited the military from wearing medals issued by foreign governments; however, Congress changed that in 1954. By then though, most U.S.

service members eligible for the medal had returned home.

In a letter sent to Defense Secretary William S. Cohen May 13, Republic of Korea Defense Minister Seong Tae Cho announced his government would provide the Republic of Korea War Service Medal to eligible U.S. veterans of that conflict, or to their surviving next of kin.

The United States and Korean governments will conduct 50th anniversary ceremonies

**continued on Page 3**



## Letters to the editor

U.S. Air Force Online News publishes letters based on their appeal to an Air Force-wide audience each week. Send your letter to the U.S. Air Force Online News staff by completing the online form at <http://www.af.mil/newspaper/>

Due to the number of letters, not all letters can be published. Letters may be edited for grammar and length. Only letters accompanied by a valid name and email address will be considered.

### Timelessness is a virtue

Referencing the letter "Give us a uniform for the 21st century," (June 21), I was born into the military and I am proud to call myself an Air Force brat. I grew up looking at and admiring the battle dress uniform and the dress blues. The battle dress uniform seems to be a source of strength in one's demeanor, that because they wear that uniform they are untouchable. While in the dress blues one seems to hold his head a little higher and step with a little more bounce. Because of the characteristics of the Air Force and what it stands for, and because it is what I have known and desired my entire life, I too have been set down my path to serve in the greatest military ever to grace this earth. I do not believe there should be a new uniform for the 21st century, for the ones that are worn now with such pride are timeless. When I was younger, I used to watch my father get dressed and when he was done, that certain pride, strength and demeanor were evident. He was and still is an American honored to be serving his country, to be a part of the United States Air Force.

**Tiffany Smith**  
*Randolph AFB, Texas*

### Patriotism becoming extinct

The award of medals and decorations is another part of the military that is dependent on your position, rank, and who your sponsor is. You may have busted your butt on a deployment but you will

not be properly recognized unless you have a sponsor to guide your career. Those of us who are patriotic to a fault are becoming extinct and soon, very soon, this country will wonder what happened.

**Dean Knight**  
*Robins AFB, Ga.*

### Facing AF challenge

After reading about Airman 1st Class Brian Coles losing his leg and fighting to stay on active duty, ("Airman's injury doesn't hamper desire to serve," June 21) I had to write and suggest a way to help our recruiting woes. I am sure there are many airmen who, because of illness or injury, have to depart from active duty because they are no longer worldwide qualified and never will be for whatever reason. I believe recruiting duty or being a PME instructor is the answer for not only the airman who wants to continue to serve his or her country but the Air Force too. Recruiting duty is very demanding yes, but Airman Coles certainly would be up to the challenge. It would have to be on a case-by-case basis but some injuries/illnesses that would keep someone from being able to deploy would not keep them from being a great recruiter/PME instructor. Fighting to stay on active duty shows they believe in the Air Force mission and would represent the Air Force well in this role.

**Kimberly Hall**  
*Randolph AFB, Texas*

## What's your perspective on commitment?

**By Lt. Col. Mike Kukulski**  
*Pope Air Force Base, N.C.*

What is commitment? Is it pulling a 90- to 120-day rotation in Southwest Asia every year? Could it be working 12-hour duty days on the flightline or at the front gate in lousy weather? Is it serving a remote tour unaccompanied by your spouse and children? Might it be doing work that would earn you two or three times as much pay in the civilian sector? How about uprooting your family from home, school and friends every couple of years for a permanent change of station?

These hardships are but a few examples of the sacrifices every service member makes. Each Air Force person should be proud of his or her service in the defense of our nation and the principles it represents, and of the commitment they have made to do so.

But our pride is tempered by the fact

we are well compensated for our service with regular pay and raises, bonuses and allowances, medical and dental care, life insurance, retirement programs and more.

Some of us probably simply view our commitments as the price we pay to receive these material benefits. But to serve for these material ends alone makes us nothing better than mercenaries, or "hired guns." Do we really "fly and fight" just for the money, or is there something more?

Perhaps we should look back in history at some examples of commitment and reflect on where our commitment truly lies.

On March 6, 1836, after a siege lasting 13 days, a fortified mission near San Antonio, Texas, known as the Alamo fell to the 2,000-strong Mexican army led by Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. One hundred eighty-nine Texan volunteers, seeking Texas' independence from Mexico, fought to the last man in the Alamo's defense.

The 54th Massachusetts Regiment led two brigades of Union infantry in an assault on the Confederate Army's Fort Wagner, near Charleston, S.C., July 18, 1863. The 600-man regiment, comprised of all African-American troops, charged the fort in the face of repeated volleys of heavy musket fire. It then held the ramparts for over an hour in hand-to-hand fighting before being repulsed by superior forces at a loss of 272 killed, wounded or captured.

As the aircraft carrier USS Hornet steamed toward Tokyo, Japan, April 18, 1942, Japanese picket ships detected her approach. With the element of surprise in question and the entire carrier group endangered, the Hornet quickly launched 16 B-25 bombers, led by Lt. Col. James "Jimmy" Doolittle.

*This article is available in its entirety online.*



# Air Force, maintainers benefit from F-117 mods

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker

Headquarters United States Air Force

**WASHINGTON**—The Air Force and its F-117 maintainers will benefit from a fleet-wide modification designed to improve maintainability and reduce operating costs, according to officials at the F-117 System Program Office, Aeronautical Systems Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

"The F-117's low-observable features have always been costly and difficult to maintain because of the various radar-absorbing material configurations," said Capt. Richard Owens, with the F-117 SPO. To correct this, the Single Configuration Fleet modification consolidates the existing seven different radar-absorbing material configurations into one optimized for maintainability and deployability.

The modification, entailing stripping and re-coating the entire F-117 fleet, replaces the sheet-coated RAM on the wings, rudders and fuselage and uses a precise robotic process to apply a RAM coating to almost 75 per-



*The Single Configuration Fleet modification consolidates the existing seven different F-117 radar absorbing material configurations into one optimized for maintainability and deployability.*

cent of the airframe, he said. These areas which are never accessed for maintenance will require virtually no future RAM repairs. Areas that are frequently accessed will have removable RAM sheets applied to the maintenance panels.

*This article is available in its entirety online.*

## Air Force captain indicted on drug charges

**SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA**—An Air Force captain assigned at Yongsan Army Garrison has been indicted by the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office on charges stemming from his May 23 apprehension for suspicion of possession of an illegal substance.

Captain André A. Gladden, commander, Det. 15, Air Force News Service, was on assignment to the American Forces Korea Network headquarters here. He was charged with crimes under three criminal statutes: violation of the law concerning increased punishment for specified crimes (narcotics); violations of the narcotics control law; and violation of the hemp (cannabis) control law.

His apprehension last month was the result of a month-long investigation by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, the Army Criminal Investigation Division and the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office. Investigators confiscated about 2 kilograms of cocaine. The drugs were allegedly purchased by the accused at his previous assignment in Panama and concealed in household goods for shipment to the United States. The household goods were reportedly shipped to Korea by mistake.

The captain is currently in pretrial confinement at Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea.

## Thousands hear Clinton on momentous occasion

By Staff Sgt. Michael Dorsey

Korean War committee

**WASHINGTON**—In case Korean War veterans didn't get the message on their anniversary that the nation remembers them, the President of the United States made it loud and clear June 25.

"For all the talk about Korea being the forgotten war, we must never forget that for

some, Korea is still alive every single day," President Bill Clinton said.

President Clinton took center stage in front of an estimated 7,000 people on the Mall near the Korean War Veterans Memorial and reminded veterans, their families and other veteran supporters that they are not forgotten.

*This article is available in its entirety online.*

## Korean War service medal approved

continued from Page 1

nies throughout 2000-2003 and medals may be applied for at any time during this period.

Approximately 1.8 million Korean War veterans are eligible to receive the medal. Next of kin to eligible deceased veterans can also apply.

To wear this medal on U.S. military uniforms, U.S. military members must have:

served between the outbreak of hostilities, June 25, 1950, and the date the armistice was signed, July 27, 1953;



been on permanent assignment or on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days, and

performed their duty within the territorial limits of Korea, in the waters immediately adjacent thereto or in aerial flight over Korea participating in actual combat operations or in support of combat operations.

The ROK specifies the eligibility period and criteria. Only the ROK-provided medal is approved by the U.S. government to meet the criteria for wear on the military uniform.

To apply, veterans must provide a copy of their discharge paper, DD-214, or a corrected version of that document, a DD-215. National Guard members must provide their statement of service equivalent, NGB Form 22.

Additional information on how to apply for or request the medal can be found by contacting the Air Force Personnel Center, Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (CST) at (800) 558-1404, or the Awards and Decorations Section (210) 565-2432/2520/2516, fax (210) 565-3118, or by writing to HQ AFPC/DPPRA, 550 C Street West, Ste. 12, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-4714.

General information on Korean War commemorations can be found by contacting the DOD 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, 1213 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Gateway 4, Arlington, VA 22202, by calling (703) 604-0831, or by visiting its web site: <http://korea50.army.mil>.

*This article is available in its entirety online.*





# Top NCOs say forum worthwhile, too short

By Linda D. Kozaryn  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – While it was a great opportunity to exchange views, the time allotted for the Defense Department's first Senior Enlisted Forum was too short.

That's what nearly 85 senior enlisted advisors told Defense Secretary William S. Cohen at the close of a daylong forum focused on readiness and quality of life.

"This was too quick," Southern Command's Army Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse Laye said of the day's packed agenda. "It would be better if we came together for two or three days. Then we could really work the issues."

Secretary Cohen and his wife, Janet Langhart Cohen, hosted the first senior enlisted advisors' forum at the Pentagon June 22.

*This article is available in its entirety online.*

## Top NCOs call for pay, QOL reforms

By Linda D. Kozaryn  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – It's a major step when service members are promoted to the NCO ranks. That's when they become responsible for the welfare, training and safety of junior service members.

Currently, that step earns them about \$20 more pay per week. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse G. Laye told top Pentagon officials here – that is not enough.

Sergeant Maj. Laye, U.S. Southern Command's senior enlisted advisor, was one of nearly 85 top NCOs, and about 60 spouses, to attend the first Senior Enlisted Advisors' Forum.

*This article is available in its entirety online.*

## Air Force Chief of Staff displays confidence in, commitment for V-22

continued from Page 1

The Air Force variant, the CV-22, will replace the MH-53J helicopter and augment the MC-130 fleet in special operations missions, he said. The aircraft has the ability to fly at speeds in excess of 250 knots, and has the capability to convert from rotary-wing to fixed-wing flight rapidly. This unique capability increases survivability and gives the V-22 greater range and speed than conventional helicopters.

"It gives a whole new dimension to how we will operate in special operations forces because of the depth it can go," he said. "It can get in where it needs to be and has the hover capability to drop off or pick up assets and get them back out."

The Air Force expects to achieve initial operational capability in 2004.

The Marine Corps, the lead service in the V-22 program, plans to buy more than 350 MV-22s to replace its CH-46 and CH-53D helicopters. The Navy plans to get a third version of the V-22, the HV-22, for fleet logistic support, special warfare, and combat search and rescue.

# Military Fantasy Job contest continues through July 4

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – The Air Force is leading the pack as the July 4 deadline approaches for web surfers to submit essays for the Yahoo! Military Fantasy Job contest.

The contest, launched on Armed Forces Day, already has more than 2,420 essays. The essay should be 200 words explaining why a person would want the fantasy job.

The Air Force is leading the armed services with their fantasy job of shadowing an



F-15 Eagle pilot and a flight in the fighter jet. As of June 18, the Air Force has received 1,152 entries.

Defense Department and Yahoo! officials

have been pleased with the contest so far. There have been more than 400,000 page hits on the fantasy job site. Additionally, more than 5,600 individuals have used the site to get more information about the various services.

For more information or to submit an essay, point your Web browser to <http://careers.yahoo.com> and click on Yahoo! Fantasy Careers.

*This article is available in its entirety online.*



## U.S. Air Force ONLINE news

U.S. Air Force ONLINE news is produced each Wednesday by the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs and is available via Air Force Link (<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>). This funded U.S. Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for Air Force members and their families. Content is endorsed by the Department of the Air Force, but is not necessarily the views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government or Department of Defense. Editorial offices: SAF/PAI, 901 N. Stuart Suite 605, Arlington VA 22203. Telephone (703) 696-7832, Fax (703) 696-9162. Please post on unit bulletin boards and pass this copy on to others who need current Air Force news and information. Reproduce as needed.

### Publishers

Hon. F. Whitten Peters, *Secretary of the Air Force*  
Gen. Michael E. Ryan, *Air Force Chief of Staff*

### Editor-in-Chief

Brig. Gen. Ronald T. Rand, *Director of Public Affairs*

### Executive Editor

Col. Chuck Merlo, *Chief, Air Force News and Information*

### Managing Editor

Senior Master Sgt. Linda Brandon

### Staff Writers

Tech. Sgt. R.R. Getsy, Staff Sgt. Cynthia Miller  
and Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker

### Technical Production

Capt. Laurel Scherer and Tech. Sgt. Tom Mullican